AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended). Compound of the formula (I)

in which

R₁ is aryl or heteroaryl, in each case unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R₇, where the substituents can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1;

 R_2 is C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, halo- C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, NHR₈, aryl or heteroaryl, in each case unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1, or pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl, piperazinyl, pyrazolidinyl, morpholinyl, indolinyl or isoindolinyl, in each case bonded via N;

 R_3 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkylheteroaryl, C_1 - C_6 alkycarbonyl or C_1 - C_6 alkylcarbonyl;

 R_4 , R_5 and R_6 either independently of one another are hydrogen, halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkylthio, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkylthio, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, where the substituents are selected from the group consisting of halogen and C_1 - C_6 alkyl, or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, where the substituents are selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl and phenyl;

or R_4 and R_5 together with the carbon atoms to which they are bonded, are a five- to sevenmembered, saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic ring having 1 to 2 heteroatoms from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur;

 R_7 is halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkylthio, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkylthio, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl; aryl, phenylacetylenyl or heteroaryl, in each case unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted, where the substituents are in each case selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, and can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1;

 R_8 is aryl which is unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted, where the substituents are selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy and halo- C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, and can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1;

X is O, S, S(O) or $S(O)_2$; and

n is 1;

and, where appropriate, E/Z isomers, mixtures of E/Z isomers and/or tautomers thereof, in each case in free form or in salt form.

Claim 2 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is aryl which is unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted by R_7 , where the substitutents in each case can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 3 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is aryl which is mono- to trisubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents in each case can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 4 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl which is in each case unsubstituted or mono- to polysubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 5 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl or aryl which is unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 6 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is aryl which is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 7 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_3 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl.

Claim 8 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_3 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

Claim 9 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R₃ is hydrogen.

Claim 10 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_4 , R_5 and R_6 independently of one another are hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 -alkynyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl.

Claim 11 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_4 , R_5 and R_6 independently of one another are hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_4 alkyl or C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl.

Claim 12 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_4 , R_5 and R_6 independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_2 alkyl.

Claim 13 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_7 is halogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, halo- C_1 - C_4 alkoxy; aryl or phenylacetylenyl, in each case unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted, where the substituents are selected from the

group consisting of halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, and can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 14 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_7 is halogen, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_2 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_2 alkoxy, halo- C_1 - C_2 alkoxy.

Claim 15 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_7 is halogen or halo- C_1 - C_2 alkyl.

Claim 16 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R₈ is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted aryl, where the substituents are selected from the group consisting of halogen, C₁-C₄alkyl, halo-C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy and halo-C₁-C₄alkoxy, and can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 17 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_8 is mono- to trisubstituted aryl, where the substituents are selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_2 alkyl, and halo- C_1 - C_2 alkoxy, and can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 18 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_8 is mono- or disubstituted aryl, where the substituents are selected from the group consisting of halogen and halo- C_1 - C_2 alkyl, and can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1.

Claim 19 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein X is O or S.

Claim 20 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein X is O.

Claim 21 (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is aryl which is unsubstituted or mono- or pentasubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1; R_2 is C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, in each case unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1; R_3 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl; R_4 , R_5 and R_6 independently of one another are hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl; R_7 is halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, halo- C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, halo- C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl

Claim 23 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is aryl which is mono- or trisubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1; R_2 is C_1 - C_6 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_6 alkyl or aryl which is unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1; R_3 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl; R_4 , R_5 and R_6 independently of one another are hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_4 alkyl or C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl; R_7 is halogen, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_2 alkoxy or halo- C_1 - C_2 alkoxy; R_8 is mono- to trisubstituted aryl, where the substituents are selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, halo- C_1 - C_2 alkyl, and halo- C_1 - C_2 alkoxy, and can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1; and X is O.

Claim 24 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is aryl which is mono- to trisubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1; R_2 is aryl which is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted by R_7 , where the substituents can in each case be identical or different if their number is greater than 1; R_3 is hydrogen; R_4 , R_5 and R_6 independently of one another are hydrogen or C_1 - C_2 alkyl; R_7 is halogen or halo- C_1 - C_2 alkyl; R_8 is mono- or disubstituted aryl, where the substituents are selected from the group consisting of halogen and halo- C_1 - C_2 alkyl, and can be identical or different if their number is greater than 1; and X is O.

Claim 25 (Original). Compound of the formula (I) according to claim 1, named N-(1-cyano-1-[2,3-dichlorophenoxymethyl]ethyl)-C-phenylmethanesulphonamide.

Claim 26 (Currently amended). Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula (I), in each case in free form or in salt form, according to Claim 1, characterized in that a compound of the formula (II)

$$\begin{array}{c} R_3 \\ N \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} R_4 \\ CN \end{array} \begin{array}{c} R_5 \\ C \longrightarrow \\ CN \end{array} \begin{array}{c} R_5 \\ R_6 \end{array} \hspace{0.5cm} (II),$$

which is known or can be prepared in analogy to corresponding known compounds and in which R_1 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , X and R_6 are as defined for the formula (II)

$$R_{2} - S - Q \qquad (III),$$

which is known or can be prepared in analogy to corresponding known compounds and in which R₂ are as defined for the formula (I) and Q is a leaving group, if appropriate in the presence of a basic catalyst, and in each case, if desired, a compound of the formula (1), in each case in free form or in salt form, obtainable according to the process or in another manner, is converted into another compound of the formula (1), a mixture of isomers obtainable according to the process is separated and the desired isomer is isolated and/or a free compound of the formula (I)

obtainable according to the process is converted into a salt or a salt of a compound of the formula (I) obtainable according to the process is converted into the free compound of the formula (I) or into another salt.

Claim 27 (Original). Composition for the control of parasites, which, in addition to carriers and/or dispersants, contains as active compound at least one compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 1.

Claim 28-31 (Cancelled).

Claim 32. (New) A method for controlling parasites comprising applying to said parasites or its habitat a parasiticidal effective amount of at least one compound of formula I of Claim 1.

Claim 33. (New) The method of Claim 33 wherein said parasiticidal effective amount of said at least one compound of formula I of Claim 1 is administered to an animal host of said parasite.

Claim 34. (New) The method of Claim 33 whereby said at least one compound of formula I of Claim 1 is administered to said animal host topically, perorally, parenterally, or subcutaneously.

Claim 35. (New) The method of Claim 32 whereby said compound is in a formulation consisting of the group of pour-on, spot-on, tablet, chewie, powder, boli, capsules, suspension, emulsion, solution, injectable, water-additive, and food-additive.

Claim 36. (New) The method of Claim 32 wherein said parasites are endo-parasites.

Claim 37. (New) The method of Claim 36 wherein said endo-parasites are helminthes.

Claim 38. (New) A method of treating an animal for parasites comprising administering to said animal in need of treatment thereof a parasiticidal effective amount of the composition of Claim 27.

Claim 39. (New) The method of Claim 38 wherein said administration to said animal is topically, perorally, parenterally, or subcutaneously.

Claim 40. (New) The method of Claim 38 wherein said composition of Claim 27 is in a formulation consisting of the group of pour-on, spot-on, tablet, chewie, powder, boli, capsules, suspension, emulsion, solution, injectable, water-additive, and food-additive.

Claim 41. (New) The method of Claim 38 wherein said parasites are endo-parasites.

Claim 42. (New) The method of Claim 41 wherein said endo-parasites are helminthes.